

Message Text

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TAGS: TGEN FR
SUBJ: FRENCH SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES -
JULY 1978

A. THE FOLLOWING BRIEF NEWS SUMMARIES REPORT FRENCH
SCIENCE OR TECHNOLOGY RELATED ACTIVITIES. IF FURTHER
INFORMATION ON ANY OF THESE ITEMS IS DESIRED, PLEASE
RESPOND TO THIS EMBASSY, ATTENTION SCIENCE OFFICE,
GIVING SPECIFIC REFERENCE AND NATURE OF DESIRED ADDI-
TIONAL INFORMATION.

B. TOPICS INCLUDED: FRENCH SCIENCE COUNSELORS AND
ATTACHES, NPT ANNIVERSARY, US-EURATOM AGREEMENT,
ARTIFICIAL HEART IMPLANT, INSERM MEDICAL SERVICES,
AMOCO CADIZ REPORT, FRANCO-AMERICAN COOPERATION, SOLAR
COMPANY CREATED, VITRIFICATION INSTALLATION, OCEAN
POLLUTION, POLLUTION INVENTORY, CNRS BUDGET.
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1. "NEW FRENCH SCIENCE COUNSELORS AND ATTACHES", A.F.P.
SCIENCES, JULY 6, L978, NO. L36, P. 6

"44 SCIENCE COUNSELORS AND ATTACHES WILL SHORTLY BE
ARRIVING AT THEIR POSTS OF ASSIGNMENT. THE FOLLOWING ARE
NEW COUNSELORS AND ATTACHES:

JEAN-FRANCOIS MARIANI, SCIENCE ATTACHE, TOKYO
DIDIER GANICHOT, CULTURAL, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
ATTACHE, JIDDAH
RICHARD SINDING, CULTURAL, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
ATTACHE, SAO PAULO
JEAN-CLAUDE CORBEL, SCIENCE COUNSELOR, PEKING
GUY LIAUZU, CULTURAL, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ATTACHE,
HAVANA
PAUL BECOURT-FOCH, DEPUTY SCIENCE ATTACHE, TEHRAN
JEAN-HENRI ROZAT, CULTURAL, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
COUNSELOR, DAMASCUS
JEAN GERBIER, DEPUTY SCIENCE ATTACHE, MOSCOW
JEAN-PIERRE GLAUX, DEPUTY COUNSELOR FOR SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY, RABAT
MICHEL BERNON, DEPUTY SCIENCE ATTACHE, WASHINGTON

"THE FOLLOWING ARE NATIONAL SERVICE VOLUNTEERS WHO
WILL SERVE AS DEPUTIES OR ATTACHES FOR SCIENTIFIC AND
TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION:

JEAN-CHRISTOPHE BOUVIER, BRASILIA
FRANCOIS SCHAEFER, ANKARA
PIERRE HELLION, OTTAWA
OLIVIER CAZAILLET, ARGENTINA
GIL BERNARDI, OMAN
PIERRE-NOEL DENIEUL, EQUADOR
MR. PRUNET, TUNISIA
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PIERRE DIRRIG, THE NETHERLANDS
MR. NICOLAS, SAN FRANCISCO"

2. "TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE NUCLEAR
NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY", A./P. SCIENCES, JULY 6, 1978,
NO. 136, P. 18

"ON JULY 1, THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY
IN VIENNA CELEBRATED THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING

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OF THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY (NPT). ON THAT DAY IN 1968, 104 STATES, INCLUDING THE SOVIET UNION, GREAT BRITAIN AND THE US - COUNTRIES HAVING NUCLEAR WEAPONS, SIGNED THE NPT."

3. "RENEGOTIATION OF THE US-EURATOM AGREEMENT", A.F.P. SCIENCES, JULY 6, 1978, NO. 136, P. 18

"AN INFORMED SOURCE STATED JULY 4 IN BRUSSELS THAT THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY (EEC) IS READY TO DISCUSS WITH THE US THE RENEGOTIATION OF THE US-EURATOM NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT OF 1959. HOWEVER, THE COMMUNITY WOULD NOT DISCUSS THOSE QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE EVALUATION (INFCE); THAT WOULD BE POSSIBLE ONLY AFTER THE END OF INFCE. FRANCE, ACCORDING TO THE SAME SOURCE, WHICH HAS BLOCKED THE EEC'S RESPONSE TO THE US REQUEST FOR RENEGOTIATION, INFORMED WASHINGTON THAT IT WAS READY TO NEGOTIATE CERTAIN QUESTIONS UNRELATED TO INFCE.

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"THE EUROPEANS HOPE THE US WILL AGREE TO RENEGOTIATE UNDER THESE TERMS AND LIFT THE EMBARGO ON HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM IMPOSED LAST APRIL."

4. "ARTIFICIAL HEART IMPLANTED IN LYON", A.F.P. SCIENCES, JULY 6, 1978, NO. 136, P. 27

"DON OLSEN OF SALT LAKE CITY UNIVERSITY IMPLANTED AN ARTIFICIAL HEART IN A COW JULY 3 AT THE UNIVERSITY

CLAUDE BERNARD IN LYON. THE HEART, PERFECTED BY MR. OLSEN IN THE US, WAS MANUFACTURED IN FRANCE. THE OPERATION SHOULD PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THE FUNCTIONING OF ARTIFICIAL ORGANS AND TOLERANCE LEVELS OF RECIPIENTS.

5. "INSERM ESTABLISHES NEW MUNICIPAL SERVICES", A.F.P. SCIENCES, JULY 6, 1978, NO. 136, P. 27

"TWO NEW MUNICIPAL SERVICES, ONE IN TOULOUSE AND ONE IN SAINT-MAURICE, HAVE BEEN CREATED BY INSERM, THE FRENCH NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH.

"THE BIOMEDICAL TECHNOLOGY CENTER OF TOULOUSE, DIRECTED BY JEAN-CLAUDE MOREAU, IS RESPONSIBLE FOR OVERALL ADVANCED RESEARCH TRAINING, ESPECIALLY IN THE MIDI-PYRENEES AREA OF FRANCE.

"THE BIOMEDICAL TECHNOLOGY CENTER OF SAINT-MAURICE, DIRECTED BY JEAN-CLAUDE MOREAU, IS RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPROVING EXISTING ARTIFICIAL PARTS FOR THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED AND FOR DEVELOPING AND PRODUCING NEW PROTOTYPES."

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6. "REPORT OF THE SENATORIAL COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY ON THE AMOCO CADIZ SINKING", A.F.P. SCIENCES, JULY 6, 1978, P. 31

"THE DEFINITIVE ESTIMATE OF THE RESULTS OF THE AMOCO CADIZ CATASTROPHE WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE BEFORE ONE OR TWO YEARS. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO THE SENATORIAL COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY WHICH HAS JUST PUBLISHED ITS REPORT, THE DAMAGE CAUSED TO FLORA AND FAUNA IN BRITTANY IS CONSIDERABLE.

"THREE TO FOUR THOUSAND BIRD CARCASSES HAVE BEEN COUNTED SINCE THE SINKING BUT IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 10,000 BIRDS PERISHED; 30 DIFFERENT SPECIES OF SEA AND LAND BIRDS WERE AFFECTED AS THE OIL SPILL CAME DURING THE BREEDING SEASON WHEN BIRDS GO ASHORE TO NEST. THIRTY-FIVE DIFFERENT SPECIES OF FISH WERE ALSO AFFECTED. THE EXTENT OF EFFECTS ON CRUSTACEANS REMAINS UNKNOWN. CERTAIN BAYS HAVE TOTALLY LOST THEIR SHELLFISH POPULATION. OYSTER FARMS WERE ALSO HEAVILY POLLUTED WITH THE MORTALITY RATE REACHING 20-50 PERCENT."

7. "FRANCO-AMERICAN COOPERATION", A.F.P. SCIENCES, JULY 13, 1978, NO. 137, P. 6

"WHILE PRESENTING THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CYAMEX OPERATION JULY 6, GERARD PIKETTY, PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR THE EXPLOITATION OF OCEANS (CNEXO), STATED, WITH RESPECT TO A RECENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN CNEXO AND THE US NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA), THAT "FRANCO-AMERICAN COOPERATION IS PROGRESSING

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WELL; IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO ALL LEVELS. WE APPRECIATE EACH OTHER. AT CNEXO, WE CONSIDER OURSELVES PRIVILEGED TO BE PARTNERS WITH NOAA. THE RELATIONSHIPS WE UNDERTAKE GREATLY FAVOR EXCHANGES AND TRAINING OF FRENCH RESEARCHERS IN AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES, AND THEY ALLOW US TO ASSURE THE QUALITY OF OUR RESEARCH TEAMS."

"ON THE SAME OCCASION, MR. PIKETTY GAVE SEVERAL DETAILS OF THE AGREEMENT, SIGNED JUNE 22 AT THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, ON A JOINT LONG TERM STUDY ON THE ECOLOGICAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE AMOCO CADIZ SINKING.

"THE JOINT SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE WILL BE HEADED BY HENRI LAUBIER, DIRECTOR OF THE BRITTANY OCEANOGRAPHIC CENTER; THE COMMITTEE VICE PRESIDENT WILL BE MR. HESS, DIRECTOR OF THE NOAA BOULDER, COLORADO LABORATORY."

8. "NEW SOLAR COMPANY CREATED", A.F.P. SCIENCES, JULY 13, 1978, NO. 137, P. 21
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"THE "SAINT-GOBAIN - PONT A MOUSSON" GROUP HAS CREATED A NEW COMPANY, "SAINT-GOBAIN SOLAIRE", WHICH WILL MANUFACTURE AND SELL SOLAR SYSTEMS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF HOT SANITARY WATER FOR HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING."

9. "INITIAL OPERATIONS OF THE FIRST FRENCH INSTALLATION FOR THE VITRIFICATION OF RADIOACTIVE WASTES", A.F.P. SCIENCES, JULY 13, 1978, NO. 137, P. 20

" THE FIRST INDUSTRIAL PLANT FOR THE VITRIFICATION OF HIGHLY RADIOACTIVE WASTES HAS JUST BEEN PUT INTO OPERATION AT THE MARCOULE NUCLEAR CENTER. CALLED THE AVM (ATELIER DE VITRIFICATION DE MARCOULE), THE UNIT SHOULD PERMIT, BY FUNCTIONING 32 WEEKS A YEAR AT 80 PERCENT CAPACITY, THE VITRIFICATION OF THE TOTALITY OF THE FISSION PRODUCTS PRODUCED BY THE MARCOULE REPROCESSING PLANT. IN 12 YEARS THE EXISTING STOCKS SHOULD BE ABSORBED. TWO OTHER VITRIFICATION PLANTS WILL BE BUILT AT LA HAGUE TO HANDLE HIGHLY RADIOACTIVE WASTES FROM ENRICHED URANIUM REACTORS. IN 1967 A PILOT VITRIFICATION PLANT WAS BUILT AT MARCOULE WHICH HAS ALLOWED THE VITRIFICATION FOR RADIOACTIVE WASTES CORRESPONDING TO THE REPROCESSING OF 800 MT OF GAS-GRAPHITE FUELS."

10. "250 MILLION FRANCS FOR THE BATTLE AGAINST OCEAN POLLUTION", A.F.P. SCIENCES, JULY 13, 1978, NO. 137, P. 25

"THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAS EARMARKED 250 MILLION FRANCS (\$60 MILLION),OVER A PERIOD OF THE NEXT 11 YEARS,
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FOR THE STRUGGLE AGAINST MARINE POLLUTION BY HYDROCARBONS. THE MINISTERS OF ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT ANNOUNCED JULY 7 SEVERAL MEASURES IN LIGHT OF THIS STRUGGLE: RENTING A DEEP SEA TUGBOAT BASED IN BREST, INSTALLING BUOYS TO MARK A CHANNEL IN THE OUESSANT, REVISING THE POLMAR PLAN, ESTABLISHING RESERVES OF FLOATING DAMS AND DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS, THE FORMATION AND RETRAINING OF

CIVIL SECURITY TEAMS CALLED INTO ACTION IN CASES SUCH AS THE AMOCO CADIZ OIL SPILL. THE TWO MINISTERS ALSO CALLED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CENTER FOR STUDY, DOCUMENTATION, RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTATION ON HYDROCARBONS (CEDREH) AT THE CNEXO OCEANOGRAPHY CENTER IN BRITTANY.

"ACCORDING TO GERARD PIKETTY, PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR THE EXPLOITATION OF OCEANS (CNEXO), THIS CENTER, WHICH WOULD PROBABLY BE SET UP BY THE BEGINNING OF NEXT YEAR, WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COORDINATION OF THE STRUGGLE AGAINST OCEAN POLLUTION AND RESEARCH. PERSONNEL OF THIS INDEPENDENT CENTER WILL COME FROM CNEXO, THE FRENCH PETROLEUM INSTITUTE, THE FRENCH NAVY, THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT, CIVIL SECURITY AND THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTE OF OCEAN FISHING. CEDREH WILL BE OPEN TO EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION."

11. "POLLUTION INVENTORY OF FRENCH WATER SYSTEMS", A.F.P. SCIENCES, JULY 13, 1978, NO. 137, P. 26

"CLASSICAL POLLUTION CAUSED BY SUSPENDED OR ORGANIC MATTER IS BEING REDUCED BUT POLLUTION CAUSED BY TOXIC OR NITRIC SUBSTANCES IS INCREASING, ACCORDING TO A REPORT

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ON THE QUALITY OF FRENCH WATER SYSTEMS. IN COMPARISON TO A 1971 INVENTORY, WATER QUALITY HAS SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED IN 50 PERCENT OF FRENCH RIVERS, REMAINED STATIONARY IN 25 PERCENT AND HAS DECREASED IN THE REMAINING 25 PERCENT.

"REDUCTION OF POLLUTION CAUSED BY SUSPENDED OR ORGANIC MATTER IS THE RESULT OF AN IMPORTANT PURIFICATION EFFORT UNDERTAKEN BY INDUSTRY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS. HOWEVER, CERTAIN RIVERS HAVE BECOME WORSE BECAUSE OF POLLUTION BY TOXIC MATERIALS SUCH AS CHROME, CADMIUM, LEAD AND CYANIDE PRODUCED BY CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES. THE SAME SITUATION EXISTS WITH REGARD TO POLLUTING URBAN AND AGRICULTURAL WASTES SUCH AS AMMONIAS, NITRITES AND NITRATES."

12. "797 MILLION FRANCS FOR FRENCH NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH CENTER IN 1979", A.F.P. SCIENCES, JULY 20, 1978, NO. 138, P. 4
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"THE NATIONAL UNION OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCHERS (SNCS) STATED THAT THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (CNRS) 1979 BUDGET WILL NOT BE AS BAD AS FEARED. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION FURNISHED BY PIERRE CREYSEL, CNRS ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL DIRECTOR, THE 1979 BUDGET WILL AMOUNT TO 797 MILLION FRANCS, 8 MILLION OF WHICH WILL BE FOR THE GANIL PROJECT. IT IS AN INCREASE OVER THE 1978 BUDGET OF 723 MILLION FRANCS PLUS 12 MILLION FOR THE INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAM FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF SOLAR ENERGY (PIRDES). SNCS ANNOUNCED THAT 230 RESEARCH POSITIONS AND 88 JOBS FOR ENGINEERS, TECHNICIANS AND ADMINISTRATORS WILL BE CREATED IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THIS BUDGET."
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